



Coalition Meeting Notes: March 9, 2021, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Attendance (14):** A total of 14 participants in the virtual zoom meeting and conference call. Attendees were:

Makini Austin (Education: Agnes Scott College), Officer Robinson (Law enforcement: Decatur High School), Officer Jameson (Law enforcement: Decatur High School), Asst. Chief Ninetta Violante (City of Decatur Fire and Rescue: Decatur Fire Marshal), Captain Gary Menard (City of Decatur Fire and Rescue), Corey Bivens (Youth Serving Organization: Decatur Housing Authority), Eve Helms (Youth Serving Organization: Decatur Housing Authority), Myra Chao (Local agency specializing in substance prevention: CPACS), Devon Johnson (Local agency specializing in substance prevention: Emory Center- MSAACD), Kimberly Wilson (Local Agency specializing in substance prevention: GUIDE), Carol Trieble (DPI-Evaluator), Marnie Grodzin (DPI Youth Coordinator), Dee Anderson (DPI Outreach/Parent Coordinator), Terrie Moore (DPI Executive Director).

**Start:** 1:02 pm

**End:** 2:33 pm

Notes provided by Dee Anderson

**Welcome/Introductions:** DPI Coalition continues to meet virtually due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Marnie Grodzin welcomed coalition members and read the DPI vision and mission statements. Members were introduced virtually via round-robin, and new member, Makini Austin, Agnes Scott Director of Counseling, was welcomed to the CPAW.

**Member Spotlight:** *City of Decatur Fire and Rescue Asst. Chief Ninetta Violante and Capt. Gary Menard*). Capt. Menard shared data from the past three years covering 2019 through 2021. The hotspots for 2019 and 2020 were ranked as follows #1) Agnes Scott College, #2) Downtown Marta Station, and #3) Decatur Housing Authority. Capt. Menard shared that in 2019, within the City of Decatur, there were 30 substance misuse responses of which 90% were alcohol-only cases, and two overdose responses, one opioid and one heroin. In 2020, a total of 20 substance misuse responses, with 99% alcohol-related and one classified as other ATOD. As of March 2021, four calls related to substances have been received: two alcohol, one sedative, and one cocaine. Currently, the two hotspot rankings are the Marta Station and a bench in Oakhurst. For the response to be categorized by the police department involvement, alcohol intoxication needs to be extremely high. The F & R department has to have a person confirm use. Terrie shared that the City of Decatur has a new CBD/Hemp store, and Marnie will be sent out to do an environmental scan of CBD/Hemp stores within Decatur. The coalition was asked if they had seen an increase or any issues with the passing of the open container ordinance in Decatur. Asst. Chief Ninetta and Makini responded, "no". Terrie mentioned that the Decatur Police Dept. officers and Fire Dept. are the ones with their ears to the ground and are aware of the community's pulse.

**Partner Updates and Opportunities for Collaboration:** Officer Robinson shared that the City Schools of Decatur opened the middle and high schools up on March 8th and have 45% capacity, with four half-days divided into two cohorts. (M, T, Th., F). Students are released for lunch at 12:30 pm and attend classes virtually for the afternoon. Students from Renfroe Middle School and Decatur High School don't attend school on Wednesdays as it is considered a day of wellness (Wellness Wednesdays), an opportunity for students to use the day at their discretion. Corey shared that the Decatur Housing Authority Community Resource Center will open its doors on March 29th with a small group of students. The group is a selected group of middle and elementary students who are currently struggling with school. DHA's Community Resource Center will continue to use the COVID protocol within the building and use the hand sanitizers donated by DPI. High

school-aged youth will possibly be able to attend the center after spring break. DHA will have no summer camp, and the City of Decatur will do a modified summer camp program. DHA Community Center will host the food program starting June 9th for 45 days providing meals for community youth. Devon, from Emory, shared that they are providing online training for kids with disabilities and special needs. Devon also thanked the CMAT Parents for participating in her need's assessment survey and Dee for her agency referrals, connections, and resource list.

**Partner Updates and Opportunities for Collaboration:** (continued) - Kimberly from GUIDE is grateful for being back at work and in the office. She shared that the kids are in school and working on opioid prevention projects. Kimberly is trying to get back into Redan High School. Terrie asked Officer Robinson if the police department would be participating in DEA Drug-Take Back Day in April. Officer Robinson would like to participate and will follow up with Terrie when he knows the police department's plans. The YAT can be available to hand out DPI Resource Bags to people who drive by the drop-off locations.

**Youth Update and All Stars-Core-Recruitment/Potential Sites:** Marnie shared that on Feb. 24th the YAT and Renfroe Middle School counselors hosted a "Self Love" event. A total of 60 youth registered and 25 youth (6th thru 8th graders) participated in this event. Students in attendance expressed they would like more activities in the future. Sienna, a YAT member, via a video, shared details of the "Self-Love" event and her satisfaction of successfully providing activities for the YAT's peers. Currently, there are five YAT members, one 7th grader and four 8th graders. Next school year, the plan is to have one YAT team at DHS and one at Renfroe. The two groups can have collaborative efforts with each other and attend meetings together. The YAT and Marnie plan to have their first in-person meeting on the Decatur Square later this month. Terrie would like to see YAT members at the monthly CPAW meetings, but at this time, it's not possible due to school schedules. Marnie shared details of the All Stars Core program currently being offered in a virtual setting for the first time to two cohorts. Marnie shared with the coalition a short video that demonstrated the All-Stars Program session e.g., a virtual introduction, an All-Stars overview for the parents, and an ice breaker. "How are you feeling today?" was asked of students with a prompt to choose a picture of a dog on the screen that represents their mood. Caboodle cards were also used for group activities. All Stars Core's goal is to help kids and teens think about their future by using various activities. One is a ranking system of what students want and don't want in their lives, and once completed, students share the information with an adult in their life to deepen the conversation. Terrie asked Eve if the DHA could host an All Stars Core Program. Ms. Eve feels that it should be no problem and will confirm when the entire afterschool program will resume in the DHA Community Center. Terrie shared all programs should promote positive social norms and the PIE concept: Positive, Inclusive, and Empowering.

**Sustainability Training in March-** Terrie mentioned that was an initial Sustainability training on Feb. 16th and there would be a follow-up training in March. A specific format for the sustainability plan will be given at that time. The process will require some coalition participation. There was a call for volunteers (expect a contact from DPI). "How do we sustain the underage drinking grant in Decatur?". The state ASAPP grant funding will end this year and will not be renewed.

**SAMHSA Partnership for Success Grant 2024** (14yr.-24yr.old, underage drinking, opioids, stimulants): Terrie shared that a continuation application was awaiting approval for carryover of the SAMHSA Partnership for Success Grant. The focus is, how ATOD interferes with relationships from the viewpoint of young adults not using drugs? There is currently a focus on the effects of illicit substance use on relations, as experienced by young adults. The campaign will also have a companion targeted for a young adult population. DPI will reach out through the coalition to invite older YAT kids and young adults to participate in focus groups and provide feedback on viewing the PSA content and messaging. DPI and BADDC have contracted with Idea Engineering to develop the "Just Not Worth It" media campaign. Carol suggested looking at DHS clubs of youth ages 18yrs through 24yrs old. Terrie suggested Mr. Joe Lee's Career Club, Closeup Club, and the Track Team.

**CDC DFC Grant-2024** (18 and under/alcohol, nicotine, and marijuana): Carol shared that DPI's current coalition sector membership is 22 active members, and she would like to see it increased to 25 members. The CPAW needs sectors from the faith-based representatives and fraternal groups/religious affiliation. Carol shared data isn't available from February through August 2020. Carol stated that DPI's strengths are information dissemination, social media, networking, website, and youth education training. DPI's identified weaknesses and areas of improvement are training for teachers, share at faculty meetings, and business

community sector training, and identifying alcohol and tobacco zones. . Terrie shared that DFC transitioned from one federal agency to the CDC. DPI will look at professional development for the upcoming year and invite Oakhurst churches, fraternal organizations, and Masonic Lodge organizations to attend the CPAW.

**DBHDD ASAPP 2021-** (9-18 yrs. underage drinking and partial RX use, tobacco): DPI will look at community risk assessments, medical emergency calls, where the calls come from, call volume, and EMS calls. Terrie said that the Decatur Parents Network Narcan training was recorded, and DPN will push out the training through its various media avenues.

**Decatur Parent Network:** Terrie shared that DPN is also looking for volunteers for their leadership committee and speakers for their Parent Speaker Series. In May, the speaker will be Steven Hill, who will share his story of recovery. In January, in partnership with DeKalb DA, DPN hosted a Human Trafficking webinar with a discussion on youth and the use of social media and substance abuse. There will be a part 2 in the upcoming months.

**Community Mobilization Action Team - CMAT Parents:** Dee Anderson shared that at the Feb. 18th CMAT parent meeting, the guest speakers were Mrs. Koina Barham and Captain Carlos Barham from Watchdog - EMS. Carlos is also an Atlanta Fire Chief of Training and a former resident of the Decatur Housing Authority community. Carlos conducted a follow-up session from the CMAT 2020 Parent CPR and first aid workshop. His session centered around parents' health concerns, first aid refresher tips, addressing COVID-19 related questions, and heart health and wellness tips. Mr. and Mrs. Barham are also DPI Community Champions.

**Other Upcoming Events:** Devon shared that she is working on a Spotify music ad campaign with Beyond the Bell organization. They are getting a good response with a lot of people listening. Listeners can be tracked via the area codes. Terrie said she would be sending out a survey to the coalition about training needs. She also stated that when the Decatur Fire Department opens again to the public, DPI will put one hand sanitizer at each station.

In closing, Terrie thanked everyone for their support and commitment to the DPI coalition.

Meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm

**Next Meeting: April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021 (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays @ 1:00 pm) Virtual meeting**

